

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Chairman, I voted against the PATRIOT Act four years ago and I remain opposed to it. While I support a number of the tools the PATRIOT Act grants to law enforcement in the fight to combat terrorism, it went too far in eroding important civil liberties, limiting the right to due process, and unnecessarily targeting immigrants.

The PATRIOT Act reauthorization process gives Congress a crucial opportunity and responsibility to reevaluate some of the decisions that were made in the emotional and fear-filled weeks following the 9/11 terrorist attacks and improve national security without jeopardizing personal liberty. The only reason we are having this debate over controversial provisions within the PATRIOT Act is because Congress agreed to set sunsets on these provisions four years ago. Minimally, the sunsets on the original 16 expiring provisions should be retained so that Congress can reconsider these new federal powers in the future if they prove too expansive.

H.R. 3199 fails to restore proper checks and balances and leaves everyday American citizens vulnerable to unnecessary and unreasonable government intrusion. Overbroad and overzealous investigations cloaked in secrecy have already had a chilling effect on Americans in their practice of freedom of speech, religion, and associations. The PATRIOT Act places these freedoms in jeopardy.

Although proponents of the bill have argued that there are no known abuses of the new law enforcement powers granted by the PATRIOT Act, because of the way the law is written, Congress has no way to know whether or not abuses have occurred. We do know that hundreds of immigrants and citizens have been detained or spied on for no reason other than their religion or nationality. Also, more than 200 libraries have been asked to turn over their records to law enforcement officials, and the sneak and peak search provision has been used at least 248 times to search homes and offices without notifying the occupants.

The USA PATRIOT Act threatens the rights of all Americans. A CBS News poll found that 52 percent of Americans were either 'very concerned' or 'somewhat concerned' about losing civil liberties as a result of the PATRIOT Act. According to a CNN/Gallup poll, 64 percent believe the government should take steps to protect additional acts of terrorism but not if those steps would violate our civil liberties.

I join the majority of Americans who want to protect our nation's security while preserving Constitutional freedoms and civil liberties. Sweeping and unnecessary federal surveillance and unchecked law enforcement powers undermine the rights that are the cornerstone of our democracy.

The Constitution that I carry is not a Republican document, it is not a Democratic document, it is an American document that we want to preserve. The PATRIOT Act is an affront to our civil rights and civil liberties, as guaranteed by our Constitution.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2005

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was inadvertently absent from this Chamber on July

22, 2005. I would like the RECORD to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote 402.

HONORING EMILIO NICOLAS, SR.

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2005

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the pioneers of Spanish-language television and a tireless advocate for Latinos throughout the United States, Mr. Emilio Nicolas, Sr. He was instrumental in establishing KWEX, Ch. 41 as San Antonio's Spanish-language station and as the United States' first Spanish-language station. KWEX became the cornerstone of the network that would become Univision, and brought Spanish-language television to millions of Latinos. His life is a testament to the ethic of hard work and striving to reach seemingly impossible goals.

Born in Frontera, Coahuila, Mexico in 1930, Emilio Nicolas, Sr. came to the United States to learn English and attend St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas. Graduating in 1951 with a Bachelor's in biology and chemistry and a minor in math, Mr. Nicolas then turned his considerable focus to earning a Master's at Trinity University in San Antonio in 1952 before going to work for the Southwest Foundation as a researcher on arteriosclerosis and the polio vaccine.

In 1955, he left the field of science to enter the burgeoning world of television when he joined KCOR TV, America's first fulltime Spanish-language station, as a producer and director of news. By day, he oversaw the news department, and by night, he produced the live programming the station beamed into the homes across San Antonio. I find this career change remarkable since television was just beginning to earn its now dominant role in our society and he encountered a world of naysayers who told him a Spanish language station could never be as profitable or viable as English stations. Mr. Nicolas proved both Wall Street and Madison Avenue wrong.

In 1961, Emilio Nicolas, Sr. and his group of partners bought KCOR, renamed it KWEX, and used the station as one of the first building blocks of the Spanish International Network which was eventually sold and became Univision. As the station's president and general manager, Mr. Nicolas ensured that the station served the needs and interests of the local Mexican-American community. Through his leadership, he made Spanish-language broadcasting viable throughout the country by demonstrating it could be profitable. Mr. Nicolas took corporate responsibility seriously, using the broadcasting platform he built as a tool to champion the needs of the Hispanic community. His success in lobbying Congress in the 1960s to mandate that all television sets be equipped to receive both VHF and UHF signals, was an indispensable part of that effort.

Mr. Nicolas, who became president of SICC, the station group for the network, provided a cultural venue to Latinos at a time when images of our community were scarce and often negative. The big three networks dominated the airwaves and the inclusion promised to mi-

norities during the 1960's had yet to occur. So, if television can be said to be a mirror for our nation, then the reflection Latinos saw at that time was distorted and unrepresentative. Mr. Emilio Nicolas, Sr. changed all that with KWEX.

Moreover, he served the community at large in a number of other ways. In 1975, Emilio Nicolas, Sr. started the Teleton Navideno, a televised drive to raise money for the less fortunate in San Antonio during the holidays, in which Archbishop Patrick Flores would eventually participate. He was Chairman of the National Association of Spanish Broadcasters and served on the boards of the University of the Incarnate Word, Southwest Foundation, the University of Texas College of Communications, the University of Texas Health Science Center, the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, and the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce. As should be obvious, Mr. Nicolas's considerable time and energy affected numerous facets of life for Latinos in our community and throughout the United States. Moreover, his efforts and influence were crucial in the amnesty legislation of 1986 which made United States citizenship a reality for hardworking people from all over the world.

In this age of mass communication, some say if you can't see an event on television, it does not actually happen, so a pioneer like Mr. Emilio Nicolas, Sr. was crucial for Latinos. His years of service to the Latino community have changed our lot for the better and we owe him a debt of gratitude.

IN HONOR OF PAUL WINCHELL

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2005

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and accomplishments of Paul Winchell, who passed away on Friday, June 24th.

Paul was born in Manhattan's Lower East Side on December 21, 1922. He studied ventriloquism from an early age, overcoming speech impediments and a difficult family life. He would go on to become one of the great pioneers of early television, bringing a smile to every household with his ventriloquism act on the Paul Winchell-Jerry Mahoney show in the 1950's.

To younger generations, Paul was best known as the voice of Tigger, the loveable tiger from Walt Disney's adaptation of "Winnie the Pooh." He also played numerous roles on children's programs such as the Jetsons, the Smurfs, the Brady Bunch, and the Beverly Hillbillies. But Paul was much more than an entertainer—he was also an innovative thinker and inventor with thirty patents.

In 1959, Paul decided to return to school and attended Columbia University. Later, he pursued graduate work in acupuncture and hypnosis. His education led to projects for the American Red Cross and the Leukemia Society. In 1963 he joined forces with Doctor Henry Heimlich, and together they developed and patented the first early artificial heart. Rather than use his invention for profit, he donated the heart to the University of Utah, where it served as the prototype for Dr. Robert